

*D2 col.* with a phenol oxidizing enzyme naturally produced from *Stachybotrys chartarum* MUCL accession number 38898 as measured by an immunoprecipitation line by Ouchterlony technique.

*D3* ~~3~~ <sup>10</sup> (AMENDED) A purified oxidase enzyme having an apparent molecular weight of about 38 kD as determined by SDS-PAGE and exhibiting an increase in apparent molecular weight after boiling, wherein said purified enzyme is obtained from *Stachybotrys parvispora* and is capable of modifying the color associated with a dye or colored compound.

*D4* ~~4~~ <sup>11</sup> (AMENDED) A purified oxidase enzyme having an apparent molecular weight of about 30.9 kD as determined by SDS-PAGE and exhibiting an increase in apparent molecular weight after boiling, wherein said purified enzyme is obtained from *Stachybotrys chartarum* and is capable of modifying the color associated with a dye or color compound.

*M F1* ~~5~~ <sup>5</sup> <sup>3</sup> ~~12~~ (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim ~~10~~ <sup>11</sup> having a pH optimum of 5.0 to 7.0, inclusive as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with 2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulphonate (ABTS) as <sup>a</sup> substrate.

*Sub E3* ~~13~~ <sup>13</sup> <sup>10</sup> *D6* (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10 having pH optimum of 6.0 to 7.5, inclusive, as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with syringaldizing as substrate.

*Sub E4* ~~14~~ <sup>14</sup> <sup>10</sup> *D7* (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10 having a pH optimum of 7.0 to 9.0, inclusive, as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with 2,6-dimethoxyphenol as substrate.

*D8* ~~8~~ <sup>8</sup> <sup>60</sup> (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~10~~ <sup>11</sup>, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

*D9* ~~9~~ <sup>9</sup> <sup>61</sup> (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~11~~ <sup>11</sup>, wherein the *Stachybotrys chartarum* has MUCL accession number 38898.

~~10~~ 62. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~13~~, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

~~11~~ 63. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~14~~, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

~~sub~~ ~~12~~ 64. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10, wherein said colored compound is a porphyrin a polyphenol, a carotenoid, an anthocyanin ora maillard reaction compound.

~~sub~~ ~~13~~ 65. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 11, wherein said colored compound is at least one of a porphyrin, a polyphenol, a carotenoid, an anthocyanin ora maillard reaction compound.